Hatchery Scientific Review Group FY 2000 Proposals and Funding Decisions

The Gorton Science Advisory Team recognized the need for research proposals to be submitted prior to the formation of the Scientific Group. They distributed a Call for Preproposals for Hatchery Scientific Research Projects on December 8, 1999. Forty-two projects were submitted for consideration by the due date of January 7, 2000. The first-year requested budgets in these proposals totaled over \$1,000,000.

The Scientific Group conferred the first time in January 2000 to review the preliminary proposals. Scientific Group members independently rated each proposed project. After consideration of each member's ratings, the Scientific Group requested fully developed proposals from 15 of the preliminary proposals, including requests to combine broadly overlapping proposals. The Scientific Group met formally in February and March to set its preliminary scientific framework priorities for research. It reviewed the fully developed proposals and considered them in the context of those priorities. The Scientific Group selected twelve proposals for funding, for a total of \$547,372 in grants as follows (some projects were funded at a decreased level from the amount requested; the name of the principle investigating agency is in parentheses):

- White River Acclimation Pond Evaluation: \$12,844 (WDFW)
- Interactions Between Wild and Hatchery Steelhead: Evaluating Key Assumptions: \$24,000 (University of Washington)
- Characterization of Lake Ozette Sockeye Salmon for Enhancement Recovery Strategies using Genetic and Otolith Marks: \$22,000 (Makah Tribal Council)
- Development of Engineered Streams for Salmon Production: \$48,301 (University of Idaho)
- Increase Post-release Survival by Rearing Coho with NATURES Semi-natural Raceway Habitat: \$76,916 (NMFS)
- Development of Field Methods to Determine the Effects of Hatchery Release: \$91,941 (WDFW and NMFS)
- Evaluation of 'Conservation Hatchery' Rearing and Release Strategies for Steelhead Recovery in Hood Canal: \$34,000 (NMFS)
- Selective Removal of Adult Hatchery Fish from Commingled Wild Stocks: \$49,260 (WDFW)
- Using Semi-natural Rearing Habitat to Improve Smolt-to-adult Survival of Chinook Salmon \$19,092 (WDFW)
- Differences in Natural Production Between Hatchery and Wild Coho Salmon: a Proposal to Measure the Influence on the Degree of Hatchery Ancestry on Natural Reproductive Success: \$146,973 (WDFW)
- Impacts of Size Selective Gillnet Fisheries on Puget Sound Coho Salmon Populations: \$12,045 (WDFW)
- Comparing the Success of Three Fish Cultural Strategies Implemented to Recover Snow Creek Coho Salmon: \$10,000 (WDFW)